

INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF

10 May 2000

SUBJECT: FAO In-Country Training Program – Argentina

1. PURPOSE: To provide a summary of the FAO In-Country Training (ICT) program in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

2. SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

- a. Tour Length: 13 Months.
- b. Normal Arrival/Departure Dates: January through February of the following year.
- c. Program Description: Two FAOs conduct ICT in Buenos Aires, Argentina each year. FAOs attend the first year of the Argentine Army Command and Staff College (Escuela Superior de Guerra), which consists of the Basic Course (Curso Basico de Estado Mayor/CBEM) and the Advanced Course (Curso Avanzado de Estado Mayor/CAEM). Both courses are approximately six months long. The Basic Course starts the first week of February with an orientation course for the foreign students. The Advanced Course starts in July and ends in mid-December.
- d. Regional Travel: FAOs conduct regional travel before, during and after completion of the courses. Throughout the academic year, FAOs may travel during long weekends, holidays, and school breaks (about two 10-day periods).
- e. Language Instruction Availability: FAOs are immersed in Spanish for the duration of their course.
- f. Prerequisites: MAJ/CPT; branch immaterial; Spanish DLPT 2/2.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

- a. FAOs are attached to the Defense Attaché Office (DAO) at the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires. The DAO will assist in most administrative issues.
- b. The Army Field Support Center, INSCOM, Fort Meade, MD provides personnel support to all FAOs throughout the overseas tour period (OER, FLPP, CCA, etc.). FAOs can contact their personnel service center in Hanover, MD at (301) 677-2134. DSN 923-2134.

c. The Joint Field Support Center, DIA, Fort Meade, MD provides finance support to all FAOs throughout the overseas tour period (LES, Pay Inquiries, etc.). FAOs can contact their service center in Hanover, MD at (301) 677-2134, DSN 923-2134.

d. POVs: Each FAO is authorized shipment of one POV. Second vehicles may be imported, but at the expense of the member and with some restrictions. Because permission is required to import vehicles into Argentina, the Embassy administrative counselor requests that incoming FAOs forward (through sponsor) the following information before the vehicle is shipped: Make, Model, Year, Engine Size, Purchase Price, and Date Purchased. FAOs should bring the original bill of sale from the purchase of the vehicle with them. It is needed to process the vehicle upon arrival, and it will minimize problems if vehicle is sold in Argentina. Shipping times will vary (3-5 months); please confirm the estimated time at the port. Third party liability insurance is required. It is also recommended that you have coverage for comprehensive and collision from a U.S. company offering coverage in Argentina (USAA does not offer coverage in Argentina).

e. Household Goods: FAOs are authorized full JFTR. Average arrival is 3-4 months. Stoves and ovens are usually the only appliances in houses and apartments. Any other appliances you will have to bring with you. Incoming FAOs should coordinate with resident FAOs for recommended items to bring as accompanied and unaccompanied baggage.

f. Housing: FAOs receive Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) and must arrange for privately leased housing. Before signing a lease, FAOs must ensure housing meets all Embassy requirements. Most FAOs without children will be directed by the Embassy to seek an apartment near the military school or the Embassy. There is, however, single-family housing available in the suburbs.

g. Support Facilities:

(1) Medical: The Embassy has a nurse and a doctor on staff. Service members can also choose from a number of local doctors. Tricare-South is the service organizer/provider.

(2) Dependent Schooling: Primary school for dependents is the English-speaking Lincoln School (Pre-K – 12). There are other elementary or day-care type schools available.

(3) PX/Commissary: There is a small shoppette-type store in the Embassy. In addition, military members can order goods through the monthly commissary shipment from Charleston, SC.

(4) APO: A full-service APO is available at the Embassy. Normal postal regulations for size and weight apply.

h. Rating Chain:

(1) Rater: AARMA

(2) Senior Rater: ARMA

i. FAOs currently in Argentina:

(1) MAJ Seelig, Simon (Jan 2000 - Feb 2001); e-mail: tseelig@hotmail.com

(2) CPT Procell, Rick (Jan 2000 - Feb 2001); e-mail: rp1994@aol.com

j. Projected FAOs:

(1) CPT Robert Wagner, FA, YG92

(2) CPT Jorge Figueroa, MP, YG 92

k. Mailing Address:

Rank, Name
USDAO Buenos Aires
Unit 4327
APO AA 34034

l. DAO Phone #:

(1) 011-54-11-4514-1855

(2) 011-54-11-4511-4995 (Fax)

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

a. Bring Advanced Course, CAS3, and CGSC materials. ICT provides a good opportunity to complete them and they also serve as valuable references while attending school.

b. FAOs should bring complete array of military uniforms. Normally, FAOs use Class B for class, Class A for ceremonies and Dress/Mess Blue for the Marine Corps Ball.

c. Regional Travel Priorities:

(1) Priority one: Argentina.

(2) Priority two: Brazil, Chile.

(3) Priority three: Other South America countries.

(4) Priority four: Central America, Mexico

d. Incoming FAOs should contact FAOs in country as early as possible for more detailed information.

MAJ HOY
(703) 614-1766
DSN 224-1766
Warren.Hoy@hqda.army.mil